

**RECESSED MEETING  
FEBRUARY 21, 2001**

The Ashland Board of Commissioners met in Recessed Session at the Ashland Central Fire Station, Ashland, Kentucky, on Wednesday, February 21, 2001, at the hour of 12:00 PM. Those present were Commissioners: Larry Brown, Kevin Gunderson, W. Russ Powell, Polly Rideout and Mayor Paul R. Reeves, who presided. Also present were: William H. Fisher, Jr., City Manager; Richard W. Martin, Corporation Counsel; Kevin P. Sinnette, Assistant Corporation Counsel & Acting Director of Planning and Community Development; Deborah Musser, City Clerk; Mark Osborne, Fire Chief; Tom Kelley, Chief of Police; Tony Grubb, Finance Director; Steve Corbitt, Director of Public Services; Marion Russell, Assistant Director of Public Services; Tony Baer, Deputy Fire Chief, and Reporters.

Also present were:

Phil Eason, Superintendent, Ashland Independent School District  
Emilia Simoes-McArtor, Director of Technology, Ashland Independent School District  
Trish Hall, Chairman/Board of Education, Ashland Independent School District  
Sally Haeberle, Vice-Chairman/Board of Education, Ashland Independent School District  
Stephanie Prichard, Board of Education member, Ashland Independent School District  
Jimmy Keeton, Board of Education member, Ashland Independent School District  
Robert Morrison, Board of Education member, Ashland Independent School District  
Kirby Hall, Business Manager, Ashland Independent School District

**AGENDA**

City Manager Fisher presented the agenda of February 21, 2001. Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Gunderson, to receive and file the agenda. Upon roll call, voting aye were Commissioners Brown, Gunderson, Powell, Rideout and Mayor Reeves. Nay – none. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion Items with Ashland School Board**

Superintendent Eason and Mayor Reeves made statements about the need to cooperate and tap into each other's resources.

**Cable TV Franchise** – The Board of Education requested inclusion in the City's contract negotiations for the Cable TV franchise. Emilia Simoes-McArtor, technology coordinator, specifically requested the contract include the installation of fiber from each school to the central office and assistance with procurement of necessary equipment. The school board appointed Ms. Simoes-McArtor and Stephanie Prichard to the Mayor's committee to assist in getting community input on items for inclusion in the new franchise agreement. Commissioners Gunderson and Rideout will represent the Board. A copy of Fred McCowan's presentation will be sent to the school board. Mr. McCowan has been contracted to assist in negotiations.

**Basic Spanish for City Employees** – The need for basic Spanish has arisen due to the number of Spanish speaking employees in the area who have been hired by Cook's in Grayson. Lloyd Keyser, Pretreatment Administrator, can serve as interpreter for the City. Superintendent Eason suggested the school system could employ a Spanish instructor. The employee's salary could be split with the City for 3 days being paid by the school board and 2 days by the City. The City Manager and Superintendent will work together and include Ashland Community College to develop a plan and estimate the cost for teaching basic Spanish.

**Risk Management Issues** – Business Manager Kirby Hall stated the school board would like to form a partnership with the City on common risk management issues. City Manager Fisher informed the Board the City was in the process of employing a Safety/Risk/Insurance Manager. This person, when employed, will be instructed to contact Mr. Hall and Superintendent Eason.

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**DISCUSSION ITEMS CONTINUED**

City Manager Fisher and Superintendent Eason will develop an agenda for the next joint meeting in approximately two (2) months. City staff will develop a list of areas for discussion.

**RECESS**

The meeting was recessed at 1:18 PM.

**RECONVENED**

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 PM with representatives from the Highlands Museum and Discovery Center. Present from the museum was Nancy Smith, Executive Director, Elaine Corbitt, Board Member, Bob Curtis, Board Member and Mitch Hall, Board Member.

Executive Director Smith gave a brief overview of the operation of the facility and provided a copy of the 2000-01 budget. The Museum Board is in the process of determining the future operation. The options being considered are sale of the current building and leasing space from the new owner or building a new facility. A possible location for the new building would be adjacent to the depot property on the riverfront.

City Manager Fisher discussed the status of the \$110,000 CDBG funds appropriated to the museum for renovation of the fire escape/stairway. The stipulation to qualify for the money was creation of 20 part-time low to moderate income jobs. Louisville HUD officials have extended the deadline for compliance to April 1<sup>st</sup>. An additional \$125,000 for elevator repair had been budgeted this year but since the museum cannot meet the previous requirements, the money cannot be given.

The museum would be interested in building along the riverfront but has no architectural plans until a site can be identified.

**MOTION**

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Powell, to pay \$110,000 out of the general fund and amending the Budget Ordinance to reflect said payment. Upon roll call, voting aye were Commissioners Brown, Gunderson, Powell, Rideout and Mayor Reeves. Nay – none. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Reeves declared the meeting recessed at 2:13 PM.

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PAUL R. REEVES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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DEBORAH MUSSER  
CITY CLERK